



Foggy Bottom News

Published for and by the Citizens of Foggy Bottom

September 1980

FBA Meeting Monday September 29 8 p.m.

St. Stephen the Martyr Church
25th & Pennsylvania Ave. NW

Perry Fisher Columbia Historical Society Washington's Hidden History- The City Nobody Knows

by Maureen Holscher

To start our new season of Foggy Bottom Association meetings we plan to go back in time. With all the interest in our historical neighborhood I thought it appropriate to invite someone who has spent many years studying the history of Washington, D.C. On Monday, September 29th, in the Auditorium of St. Paul's Parish House, 2430 K Street, N.W., Perry Gerard Fisher, Executive Director and Librarian of the Columbia Historical Society will refresh our memories of the past.

Mr. Fisher has been employed as Executive Director and Librarian of the Columbia Historical Society of Washington, D.C. since August 1, 1975. The Society is a non-profit organization devoted to the collection, preservation, and publication of the history of the District of Columbia and its people. Mr. Fisher is responsible for the overall daily operations of the Society; program and membership development; the care of its collections of approximately 20,000 pictorial and 15,000 printed items, and miscellaneous artifacts and memorabilia pertaining to Washington, D.C.; the maintenance of the Society's physical plant; and for service to the general public in the form of lectures, media presentations, response to telephone and mail inquiries, and representation of the Society's position in all matters bearing upon the historical concerns of the organization.

In addition to his duties at the Society, Mr. Fisher has served as a member of several teams to organize high school and college-level courses dealing with Washington history and affairs.

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- NOTICE - Meeting Place Change

The location of the Foggy Bottom Association's monthly meeting has been changed for this month only. We are asked to use the entrance on 25th St. between Pennsylvania Ave. and K St. when arriving at the meeting this month at St. Stephen the Martyr Church.

FBA Elects Officers and Board Members for 1980/81 — Candidates for D.C. Council Membership Meet Foggy Bottom Constitutents

by June Haley

The Foggy Bottom Association's monthly meeting on June 30 was tagged "Candidates Night." It was the evening for the election of the 1980/81 officers and executive board members of the Association. It was also the evening reserved for candidates for Membership on the D.C. Council to discuss their candidacy with the members of the Foggy Bottom Association.

This was the last FBA meeting scheduled before the D.C. primary election on September 9. The Association had sent invitations to every party organization in the District recognized by the D.C. Board of Elections and Ethics and to each of the incumbent members having an interest in the Foggy Bottom area whose terms of office were expiring at the end of the year.

Three candidates accepted the invitation to attend the meeting: John A. Wilson (D), Council Member, Ward 2; Rev. Jerry A. Moore, Jr., (R), Member-at-Large. All three candidates have been in close touch with the Foggy Bottom residents and FBA officers during their years in office.

The Candidates and the Issues Member-at-Large Jerry Moore

Member-at-Large Jerry Moore serves as Chairman of the D.C. Transportation and Environmental Affairs Committee and is also a member of the Housing and Urban Development Committee and the Budget and Administration Personnel Committee. Jerry is Pastor of the historic 19th Street Baptist Church and serves as a member of a number of D.C. citizen organizations.

Jerry, a member of the Republican Party and a minority

member of the D.C. Council, identified himself to the Foggy Bottom members as a "rare species, a thing of value." Moore was first appointed to the D.C. Council in 1969 by the President of the United States. In 1974 he was elected to his first term under Home Rule.

Jerry assured the FBA members that he was aware of the issues of priority in Foggy Bottom — crime, apartment conversions, noise, bus service interruptions On specific issues such as the Whitehurst Freeway extension, Jerry promised to hold hearings to gather citizen input on the proposal.

He also offered guidelines to residents plagued by excessive noise and pollution from the exhausts of tourist buses idling in

the narrow Foggy Bottom streets. With the recent conversion of apartments to hotels in the neighborhood, tourist buses are a new, noisy and dirty invasion of the area. Jerry said buses are not permitted to iddle more than five minutes in the District. He asked the residents to keep his office informed of any violations and he would take steps to have the buses moved if necessary.

John Wilson, Council Member, Ward 2

John A. Wilson, the Council Member representing Ward 2, the political division that includes the Foggy Bottom area, is also aware of the issues of particular interest in the neighborhood. As the representative for Ward 2, most

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October 11, 2-5 p.m.

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German Band



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We Begin Another Year

by John Landgraf

The Foggy Bottom Association is one of the most active community groups in the District of Columbia. It is respected throughout the city and in the District Building. Its twenty-five year history is one of concerted citizen action and includes a list of many campaigns that have, surprisingly to some, preserved a great deal of residential character in an area that lies smack in the track of super business and institutional development.

The reason for such accomplishment over all these years is the continued support by dues-paying members. Local residents who felt the need for communications and community action have frequently and in surprising numbers volunteered for the difficult or tedious tasks that have to be done.

All that the association does, it does through its volunteer members. Older retired persons do the daytime and weekday tasks and younger people give their evenings and weekends to innumerable projects.

Well over fifty people each month give time to write, publish and distribute the prize-winning *Foggy Bottom News*. Other help arrange our exciting monthly public meetings featuring speakers who are invariably pleased to voluntarily appear before interested and informed citizens.

Other members willingly attend drawn-out meetings with developers, City Council members or city administrators, finding

time off from work or missing their suppers. And the volunteer elected officers get the satisfaction of constantly accomplished action, the solid memorials of a maintained residential ambience in the midst of constantly threatened encroachments.

Each year, the FBA needs membership renewals and above all, new members, for their participation in action, for their dues, which help support the expenses of the News and other activities, and for the continued renewal of the strength of the association.

Membership for the year to June 31, 1980 costs \$5.00 and provides each member with a stake — as much as each one wants — in an integral part of life in our neighborhood.

So, if you were a member last year, renew your membership for this year as soon as possible. And if you have never been a member, join. We need you.

A membership card can be obtained by using the form which appears below and sending it with your check for five dollars (made out to Foggy Bottom Association Inc.) to Treasurer Melvin Ogden at 730 24th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037. If you want more forms or further information call Membership Chairperson Lucille DuPratt evenings at 338-7088 or any of the following Membership Committee members: Robert Charles, 965-2905; Maureen Holscher, 965-0973 or Dorothy Ohliger, 337-4258.

Executive Board Names Committees

by Kathy Haley

On a steamy night in August — the 6th to be exact — the executive board of the Foggy Bottom Association met at President John Landgraf's home. Fortified with big newtons and wine punch, the board set about the evening's task of establishing committees for 1980-81.

Landgraf suggested, and board members agreed, that this year, chairpersons should call their own meetings as needed to avoid frequent convening of the entire executive board. Board members also agreed that chairpersons should appoint additional members, not on the board, to their committees.

The first committee appointed that night was membership, which Lucille DuPratt will chair. Bob Charles, Maureen Holscher and Dorothy Ohliger agreed to serve and it was hoped that Mel Ogden, Ellie Becker and Bob Niemiec will help out.

Anne Lomas chairs this year's social committee which is already hard at work preparing for Oktoberfest. Al Cottrell has arranged for the band that entertained at last year's Oktoberfest to do so again this year. DuPratt suggested that this year a white

elephant sale might be held in conjunction with Oktoberfest, with each tenant association or building providing a booth. Other volunteers to the social committee are DuPratt, Karen Gordon and Ohliger.

For the editorial committee it was agreed that either Becker or June Haley should serve as chairperson and that Landgraf would speak to each. Holscher, Lomas and Charles agreed to serve as will editor, Kathy Haley.

The biggest problem facing the editorial committee is the lack of an advertising manager. All committee members are trying to recruit someone for this position and Gordon is exploring possibilities of a student intern from George Washington University or a St. Mary's Court resident. Holscher undertook the task of selling ads for the September issue.

The editorial committee hopes to meet near the end of September to discuss who will help distribute the Foggy Bottom News this year and to define a new restaurant review policy. The amendment to the FBA By-Laws defining a standing editorial committee will be

voted on at the September 29 public meeting.

One of the most important results of the executive board meeting was the creation of a City Affairs Committee. Landgraf will chair the committee which hopes to maintain liaison with the ANC and deal with technical issues of zoning, legislation and new development. Gordon, K. Haley and Ohliger agreed to serve. Becker will be asked to participate.

In other business that night, four ad hoc committees were created: By-Laws, Red Lion Row, Committee on Airport Problems, and a committee on bus traffic in the area of the River Inn. Charles reported that he and Becker would soon complete their assemblage of an up-to-date copy of the FBA by-laws. There were no volunteers for the other committees, and Landgraf is attempting to recruit members for them.

Under new business, Cottrell reported that Mary Healy had obtained cooperation from the city on a proposal to improve the park area along the west side of 26th St., if the community can find necessary funds, possibly from some grant program.

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WRITING COURSES OFFERED AT GW

The Washington area's proliferation of aspiring writers will be interested in a number of non-degree courses offered through George Washington University's Continuing Education for Women Center this fall.

A new offering, "Covering the Washington Political Scene: Writing the Story Behind the News," will show how to analyze the implications of an event as well as recount the facts. Development of news sources and covering Congress, the White House and special interest groups will be included in this 10-week course.

"Freelance Writing," a six-week course, will cover making contacts, analyzing the market, improving style, legal protection and arrangements for payment.

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* The Washingtonian
July 1980

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ANC News from A to Z

ANC NEWS—What is happening in Foggy Bottom-West and What Happened This August.

Commissioner Miller was elected Second Vice Chair of ANC 2A by a unanimous vote (with Miller abstaining) in resolution M-2.

Economic Development: Commissioner Nowick reported on the progress of two projects in Square 73: a mixed condo/office development to be built on 22nd Street, between K and L, which the ANC supported with limited commercial parking; and a commercial project at 2121 K Street, which the ANC also supported with limited commercial parking.

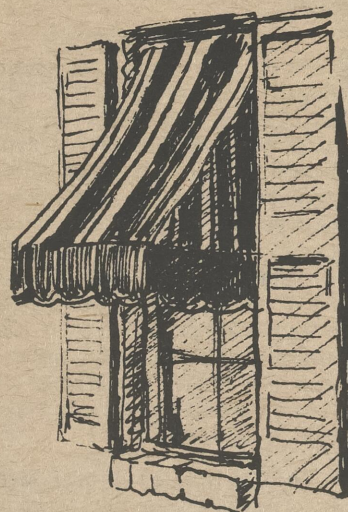
Foggy Bottom Grocery Liquor License: The commission discussed a pending liquor license application (carry-out wine and beer) for the Foggy Bottom Grocery at 2140 F Street. John Courembis, co-owner, was present to answer questions. Commissioner Molinelli expressed reservations about allowing the license, citing a history of difficulties with the store. The ANC held a special meeting to discuss this issue on August 13. Resolution N-2 was passed neither supporting nor objecting to the granting of the license to Foggy Bottom Grocery, and requesting the Alcohol Beverages Control Board to pay particular attention to several potential problems.

Maxine's Restaurant cafe: An application for using public space for a sidewalk cafe by Maxine's Restaurant at 2519 Pennsylvania Avenue was discussed. Leslie Wilson of Maxine's responded to questions. Residents from the nearby Westbridge condominium expressed some concern over potential noise problems caused by the cafe. The ANC, in Resolution M-1, recommended approval of the application providing that the hours of operation do not exceed 11 p.m. Sundays through Thursdays and 12 midnight Fridays and Saturdays.

Red Lion Row: Commissioner Miller announced that another meeting will be held with George Washington University and its architects to discuss the depth to which the townhouses will be preserved. GWU also has filed for a Planned Unit Development Application. Commissioner Miller will report further on this issue at the next regular ANC meeting.

Transportation: Commissioner Feldman reported on D.C. Department of Transportation's latest actions in removing or revising Right Turn on Red signs. Because DOT has largely ignored requests by ANC's to maintain Right on Red restrictions in their areas, several ANC's have asked DOT officials to discuss their actions at public meetings. Feldman suggested, and the other commissioners agreed, that a DOT official should be invited to the next regular ANC meeting.

Washington Circle (Square 38): Commissioner Nowick summarized the ANC's actions at its July 1 regular meeting and reported on a special private meeting which ANC commissioners held with Circle Associates developers on July 9. At the latter meeting, Circle Associates reaffirmed its concerns over the projected costs and saleability of many of the units. It said that it explored modifications of the design of the clinic but that none were feasible for technical reasons which it elaborated. Nowick said that Circle Associates presented the ANC with a petition saying that the undersigned were not opposed to medical clinic use in the project. It was signed by several dozen Foggy Bottom residents, including three from Square 38. Sy Hershon, who attended the ANC meeting on behalf of Circle Associates, said that the bank underwriting the project loan could not guarantee a full loan for some of the back units because of their alleged questionable saleability. Nowick said that the ANC is sympathetic with these problems and remains prepared to discuss any new ideas, but he recommended no further action by the ANC at this time.



Thank you

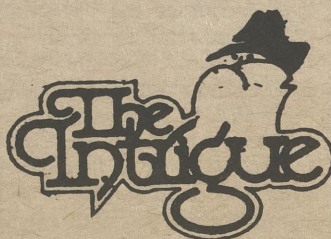
I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks to all Ward 2 citizens who came out to vote in the September 9 primary election. I specially want to extend my deepest gratitude to all Ward 2 democrats who supported me. Your faith in my candidacy is greatly appreciated and I will always do my best to represent you.

I urge all registered D.C. voters to use their vote and come out in the November 4 general election period. Those of you who live in the district and are not registered to vote may contact my office at 724-8058 and we will send you a voter registration application.

Thank you, Sincerely,
John Wilson.
Councilmember Ward 2 D.C.
city council.

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Wed-Thurs, Oct. 8-9

Wizards

Zardoz

Fri-Sat, Oct. 10-11

The Thirty-Nine Steps

The Lady Vanishes

Sun-Mon, Oct. 12-13

Fiddler On The Roof

Zorba The Greek

Tuesday, Oct. 14

The Great Train Robbery

The Seven-Per-Cent Solution

Wed-Thurs, Oct. 15-16

It Happened One Night

Born Yesterday

Fri-Sat, Oct. 17-18

Escape From Alcatraz

The Electric Horseman

Sun-Mon, Oct. 19-20

Time After Time

Murder By Decree

Tues-Wed, Oct. 21-22

North Dallas 40

Semi-Thought

Thursday, Oct. 23

Alice's Restaurant

Bound for Glory

Fri-Sat, Oct. 24-25

The In-Laws

The Goodbye Girl

Sun-Mon, Oct. 26-27

Hair

Easy Rider

Tuesday, Oct. 28

Roadie

Smile



25th Street, N.W.

Letters to the Editor

Square 38 Again!

Editor:

"Last year our Advisory Neighborhood Commission was embroidered with the Circle Associates Development Corporation over a parcel of land located off the northwest section of Washington Circle, Square 38. This controversy emerged again this summer as Circle Associates sought to commercialize one third of their residential condominium, the Chancellor.

This controversy is a classic confrontation between the ANC's concern for preserving the residential quality of our area and a developers desire to maximize their investment dollar. Problems began in early 1979 when the Circle Associates originally sought to demolish all the townhouses facing Washington Circle in order to construct their ten story building. The ANC countered this move by successfully petitioning the Landmark Commission to designate square 38 an historic district. Next the Circle Associates sued the ANC for opposing their development plans. Finally an out of court compromise was made which modified the residential structure by preserving half of the townhouses' facades supported the Circle Associates petition to the Board of Zoning Adjustment for the necessary building permits. Throughout these proceedings the residential status of the building was never in question.

There matters rested until this July when a Circle Associates official announced they had signed an agreement with a new medical group, the Washington Circle Clinic Association, to occupy the first three floors of the Chancellor. This September the Circle Associates successfully petitioned the BZA for a hearing to modify their building permit to accommodate this commercial venture. At an ANC meeting representatives of the developers explained that cost overruns and unsaleability of rear units contributed to the change in plans. The ANC and their supporters were visibly upset because the Circle Associates had reneged on the most important part of the compromise, the preservation of an all-residential building.

This fall we shall see how power politics works in Washington when the BZA meet to decide the fate of the Chancellor. In a showdown between the developers and the neighborhood it doesn't take a genius to figure out money talks, ANCs walk."

Richard Churchill

Buses and A Liquor License

Editor:

Almost two years ago representatives of the River Inn (Conrad Cafritz in particular) testified before the Alcoholic Beverage Commission that their hotel catered to the business community (corporate executives, Fortune 500, State Department, etc.) They were granted a liquor license because the ABC board was convinced that serving liquor at the Foggy Bottom Cafe would not adversely affect the character of the surrounding small residential

neighborhood. After all, a small "hotel dining room" catering to distinguished business men and women couldn't possibly upset life in the area. Business people seldom even drive into the city, so they couldn't generate much additional traffic. They take taxis or the subway, but no, never arrive at the hotel on chartered buses.

Sounds innocuous, doesn't it? A quite, dignified apartment/hotel in the middle of a quite residential neighborhood couldn't possibly create many problems for surrounding residents, right?

Here we are in September 1980 and nothing could be further from the truth. Where are all the corporate executives? I see nothing but *tourists* and *buses*, *tourists* and *buses* creating havoc on our streets. Seems to me the River Inn didn't live up to its sworn testimony regarding "business" clientele. What happened?

I'll tell you what happened. They simply failed to attract the desired clientele, so they took the easy way out — booking groups tours. I wonder if they ever *really* intended to cater to the business community at all. They surely made no mention of group tours and chartered buses at the liquor hearing. It's a heck of a lot easier for the hotel to rely on travel agents and bus companies to keep all the rooms booked, anyway.

So as residents, we are left holding the bag. We're supposed to endure the incredible noise, exhaust, obstruction of traffic, danger to life and property, and blatant violations of traffic regulations on streets which were never intended and are not equipped to handle this type of traffic.

If buses are not banned from the affected streets, the situation will only worsen in coming months (though I don't see how it could be any worse). One day in July I counted *ten* buses!

I can't stand to see what is happening to our neighborhood. Many of my neighbors have seen me confronting bus drivers when they are breaking the law, and I will continue doing so until something is done to bring relief.

Eventually we will win, if we continue to go the distance. Writing to local elected officials and phoning the police already seem to be doing some good.

I am writing to urge citizens who sympathize with those of us fighting this issue to help us by writing a letter of protest to James E. Clark, III, Acting Director, Department of Transportation, 415 12th St. N.W. Washington, D.C. 20004.

We are going to win, and as far as I'm concerned the River Inn will just have to learn to live with it.

Lila Roper
935 25th Street, N.W.

Working Together

Editor:

I was surprised and somewhat intrigued to see the new "West-End" insert in the *Georgetown* of September 5. Those of us who live in the Foggy Bottom-West End have never doubted the existence of life on either bank of Rock Creek.

As the insert implies, citizens in Foggy Bottom-West End and Georgetown share many of the same problems and perspectives. Foggy Bottom-West End citizen groups have supported Georgetown on such issues as the Georgetown waterfront and airplane noise. The *Foggy Bottom News*, which is published by the Foggy Bottom Association and also covers the West End, has carried a number of features on Georgetown restaurants and cultural events.

The article in the "West-End" is correct in stating that residents in our neighborhood have come to appreciate many elements of the West End's resurgence. At the same time, like Georgetown residents, we are concerned to keep to a minimum increases in traffic, noise and other problems which accompany this kind of development. The coexistence of homeowners with some of the new West End bars and cafes, for instance, has not always been friction-free.

The article also says that the Foggy Bottom and West End Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC 2A) has "opposed high-rise development" and wants the West End to "remain family oriented." The ANC does favor low-density development where appropriate, and it has helped preserve many of the neighborhood's townhouses by supporting successful historic landmark applications. For example, two blocks of attractive Victorian homes on the north side of Washington Circle have been designated landmark status. However, the ANC do not oppose high-rise development *per se*, and we have testified in favor of several high-rise residential projects in the West End, believing that our area sorely needs the new housing.

The article also refers to the need for adequate residential parking. This remains a problem, but we are making some modest progress on this score. For instance, the Westbridge condominium owners have gained more than a dozen new residential parking spaces on their block of 26th Street, and the ANC is considering increased parking for New Hampshire Avenue north of Washington Circle.

In addition to this issue, the article should note that the ANC has been concerned to limit the amount of commuter parking in the West End, in some cases successfully negotiating with developers to provide less parking than the ceilings allowed under the zoning regulations. Such limits help encourage the use of mass transit and reduce rush hour traffic congestion not only in our neighborhood but also in adjacent areas such as Georgetown.

There are many opportunities to promote still further cooperation and mutual understanding between the two sides of Rock Creek. The "West-End" insert in the *Georgetown* may be a step in this direction.

Sincerely,
John Nowick
Chairman
The Foggy Bottom and West End Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC 2A)

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Foggy Bottom News

The Foggy Bottom News is a publication of the Foggy Bottom Association. All editorial and other assistance is contributed on a volunteer basis by residents of the area.

Editor Kathy Haley
Temporary Advertising Manager Maureen Holscher 872-1190
Artists Pam Palco, Jackie Cooper, Bill Lattin
Circulation John Landgraf, Eleanor Becker
All announcements, letters, articles, etc., welcome but must be typed.
Send to:

FOGGY BOTTOM NEWS

c/o West End Library

24th & L Sts., N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20037

Next Edition's Deadline: October 5

The opinions expressed in this publication are those of the writers. Their appearance here constitutes neither an endorsement nor official policy of the Foggy Bottom Association.

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New Shop On Eye Street

Among the new shops that opened in Foggy Bottom over the summer months is the U.S. — China Friendship Center and Store at 1924 I St. Located on the ground level of one of a townhouse the U.S. — China Friendship Store is filled with artifacts from and information about the People's Republic of China.

Among the authentic, reasonably priced Chinese arts and crafts for sale at the shop are delicately woven baskets, enamel boxes, carved marble figurines, scarves and wall hangings. There are books and pamphlets that cover art history and current events and children's books for sale also.

The stop is operated by the Washington chapter of the United States — China People's Friendship Association, a national organization formed in 1974 to build mutual understanding and lasting friendship between the people of those two countries. Established as a non-profit educational organization by thirty small groups across the country, the association's founders included veteran China friends who had lived, worked and traveled in China, as well as former missionaries, students, teachers and Asia scholars.

The association's initial purpose was to promote the interest in China that had begun to stir among the American people following the issuing of the Shanghai Communiqué in 1972, which opened the door to diplomatic relations between the

U.S. and the People's Republic of China. The association also seeks to encourage support for the United States' diplomatic recognition of the People's Republic of China.

Trips to China are available and the Center will gladly work out details with anyone planning such travel. Thus far over 7,000 Americans have traveled to China on one of these tours. The local membership of over 500 has largely come enthusiastic returnees wanting to keep in touch with China.

The main function of the center, which is manned entirely by volunteers, is to distribute information through films, tapes and speakers who can address meetings and provide orientation for prospective travelers. There are modest fees for rental of equipment.

Currently there are several classes in Chinese being held, and small classes are frequently started. From the center, one can learn of other programs available in the metropolitan area. Most of these programs focus on specific themes such as law, nursing or education. Occasionally, the association holds galas where guests can sample elegant Chinese cuisine.

National headquarters for the U.S. — China People's Friendship Association is in Los Angeles. Members of its Washington chapter are hoping residents of Foggy Bottom will stop in and experience their center and shop in our neighborhood.



The Start

In multicolored uniform
we test our legs like unsure fawn
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or rocket launch in early dawn
a breathless surge in which we're drawn

Winding away in bell-curve form
the runners mass around the norm
yet from the spreading, pulsing spawn
a leader, slight and sure, is drawn

coiled snake on a dappled lawn
awakens with a startling yawn
and, stretching smooth its mottled form
curls thinly by, alive and warm

John Connely

The poet is a resident of Foggy Bottom.

Bestseller

by Kathy Halley

Memories Of the Bottom, a cookbook featuring favorite recipes of Foggy Bottom residents has gone into a second printing. Over 250 copies of the cookbook have sold and in addition to a growing number of orders for more, there are several Foggy Bottom merchants who are planning to sell the book in their stores.

Compiled and published last Spring by Maureen Mosher, Lempi Junkkari and Jean Keppler, Cookbook Committee of the Bader Tenants Association, *Memories Of the Bottom* is more than an ordinary cookbook.

There are tables of equivalents and substitutions, household tips, nutrition information and creative menu planning ideas. Everything from the best method of cooking barracuda to how many pounds of coffee are needed to serve 100 people seem to be included.

Recipes range from prize-winning chili and Maryland crab-cakes to gourmet hors d'oeuvres and pokeberry pie. While some recipes require hours of preparation many others offer clever shortcuts. There are even a few low-calorie deserts.

Ms. Mosher expects copies of *Memories of the Bottom* to be available within four weeks. Local stores planning to carry the cookbook are: Diplomat Dry Cleaners, Watergate Foto-Framing, American Spirit and Kramer Books of Dupont Circle.

Anyone wanting to order *Memories Of the Bottom* directly may send a check for \$5, (\$4 cost plus \$1 for postage and handling) to Maureen Mosher, 2514 K St. NW, Apt. 603, Washington, 20037.

Advice to Small Business

The Small Business Clinic at George Washington University's National Law Center, the only one of its kind in the D.C. area, is offering free legal advice to Washington area residents who already own or want to start a small business or non-profit organization in the District.

Legal counseling is available for such business matters as buying and selling agreements, commercial leases, zoning problems and the organization of corporations and partnerships.

GW law students who staff the clinic are supervised by Lela Love, a lawyer and assistant director GW's division of experimental programs. The Small Business Clinic, which has been operating on a pilot basis for the past four years, recently received a Small Business Administration grant of \$33,292 and is now a permanent part of the law school's Community Legal Clinic.

The clinic has assisted small organizations such as a halfway house for former drug addicts, babysitting service, ice cream parlor, museum tour service, dance company, bakery, hair-dressing studio and a variety of other profit and non-profit businesses.

The Small Business Clinic operates weekdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For information, call 676-7463.

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Community Fights To Preserve Rights

by Maria Tyler

Since the conversion in Spring 1978 of The Alamac apartment house at 925 25th. St. to the River Inn hotel, residents in the surrounding community have had to endure an increasing number of traffic violations from chartered buses serving the hotel. The River Inn, which was created before the current ban on hotel conversions took effect, is situated on a narrow, 29 foot wide street in a tiny residential community in Foggy Bottom.

That community is being asked to accept with growing frequency blocked alleys and driveways, illegal parking, buses driving the wrong way on a one-way street, clogged traffic and noise and air pollution. Residents voiced their outrage about this to the police and at a January 1979 public hearing before the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board concerning the hotel's liquor license application.

At the hearing, Conrad Cafritz, who is president of Alamac Inc., lessee of the property, testified under oath that the hotel and restaurant would cater to the "Fortune 500" who do not use tour buses. While tour bus traffic abated temporarily pending the ABC decision, it resumed in ever-increasing numbers once the liquor license was granted. Despite Mr. Cafritz's contentions at the ABC hearing, a large part of the hotel's business has consisted of clients using chartered buses.

On April 14, 1980, 415 residents in the affected community signed a petition requesting the Department of Transportation to ban buses from the 800 and 900 blocks of 25th St. NW, the 2400 and 2500 blocks of I St. NW, the 900 block of 26th St. NW Quenn Ann's Lane and Hughes Mews. Following a build-up of additional complaints, representatives of the community met with then DOT Director, Douglas Schneider, Councilmember John Wilson and hotel representatives.

During this meeting the director proposed a compromise which would ban buses from certain streets designated in the petition but allow them on the 800 and 900 blocks of 25th St. one at a time. The compromise would also

establish a "sightseeing bus stand in front of the hotel."

Community residents unanimously rejected this proposal, on the grounds that it would discriminate against some streets in the affected community, where all streets are classified as "local" and residential by the DOT. The 800 block of 25th. St. residents believe, would be more adversely affected by the compromise because buses would no longer be allowed to enter from the 2400 block of I St.

Residents also maintained in rejecting the compromise that it would be unenforceable because the hotel has no means of controlling the flow of buses. Two representatives of the District of Columbia Police Department present at the meeting corroborated the unenforceability of the proposal. To police such a situation, residents maintain, would require an officer on duty 24 hours a day at the hotel.

Even if the proposal could be enforced, residents maintain, the configuration of 25th St. is such that even one bus at a time cannot operate legally while loading and unloading tourists and their luggage. Residents would still be left with considerable noise and air pollution.

Hotel representatives were offered a compromise solution in which the hotel would shuttle clients in vans to parking areas outside the residential area. After a week's consideration, the lawyer for the hotel replied that the compromise is totally unacceptable because it would be inconvenient for hotel guests and costly for the hotel.

As of this writing, the new Acting Director of the Department of Transportation, James Clark III, is studying the resident's petition for a total ban on buses in the affected area. Residents strongly hope that the DOT will act expeditiously to protect and preserve the character of this community and will not sacrifice a residential neighborhood to the commercial interests of an investor.

The writer is an ANC Commissioner in Ward 20.

N.O.I.S.E. To Meet

For N.O.I.S.E. (Neighbors Opposed to Irritating Sound Emissions) members and all others interested in N.O.I.S.E.'s pending activities concerning aircraft noise, there will be a meeting held on **Tuesday, October 14th** from 7:30 -9:00 p.m. at the Palisades Library at 4901 "V" Street, N.W. in the District. To get to the library, just follow Reservoir Road to MacArthur Boulevard and the library will be one block past the Safeway on your right. For any further information, call N.O.I.S.E. at 338-5845.

Library Hours

The West Library has returned to its winter hours:

Mond. & Wed: 1 to 9 p.m.
Tues., Fri. & Sat.: 9:30 to 5:30
closed Thurs. & Sun.

As of September 15, the D.C. Public Library System is charging 5¢ per day for overdue children books, with a maximum charge of \$1 per item. Fines on adult books remain 5¢ per day, but the maximum has been raised to \$3 per item.

Where Do Your Children Play?

Do you know where the kids in our neighborhood play? Are there storekeepers, bus drivers or other community people who give kids extra time and interest? If so, Community Design for Family Use Project would like to know about them.

A function of the American Planning Association, the Community Design for Family Use Project recently received funding from the D.C. Community Humanities Council. CDFUP is surveying the D.C. area for neighborhoods and community services that have adapted themselves for kids.

They are looking for unusual play areas around Washington such as safe alleys, apartment building courtyards, neighbors sharing a common open space or whatever. In October, 1980, they will mount a photo exhibit at the Capital Children's Museum.

The photo exhibit will highlight urban design elements around the District including neighborhoods, buildings or open spaces that provide an environmental in which families may function and in which children may play freely and easily. It will also depict environments where it is particularly hard for families to live. Vivian Barry or Linda Hollis by writing the American Planning Association at 1776 Massachusetts Ave. NW, 20036, or calling 872-0611, ext. 33.

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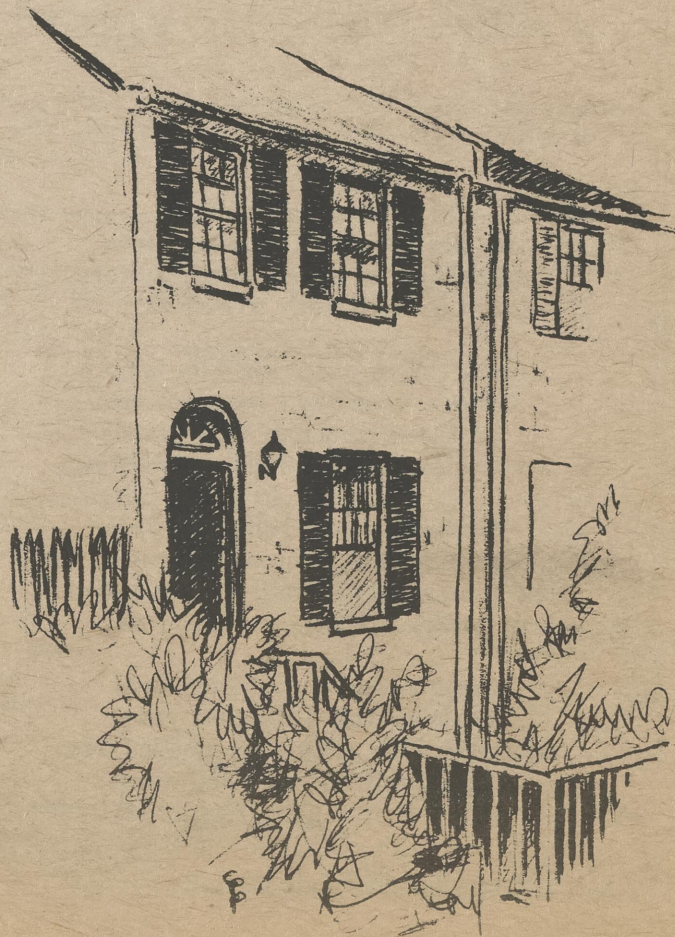
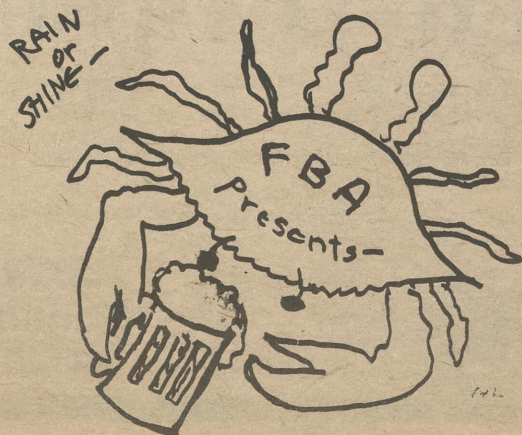
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Kennedy Center Announces 1980-81 Ballet Season

The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts has announced its 1980 - 81 ballet season, its largest presentation of dance to date. Opening the season in October will be the New York City Ballet, followed by American Ballet Theatre, The Eliot Feld Ballet, Dance Theatre of Harlem, The Martha Graham Dance Company, and, rounding out the season, the Royal Ballet.

Dance Theatre of Harlem is a presentation of the Washington Performing Arts Society. The Eliot Feld Ballet and The Martha Graham Dance Company are joint presentations of the Washington Performing Arts Society and the Kennedy Center. All three companies are also available on the Dance American Series.

New York City Ballet's engagement will feature many Balanchine and Robbins favorites such

as *Apollo*, *Symphony in C*, *Jewels*, and *Afternoon of a Faun*, as well as three new works by Balanchine — *Ballade*, *Walpurgisnacht Ballet* and *Robert Schumann's Davidsbundlertanze*. A new Robbins work, *Suite of Dances*, from his *Dybbuk Variations*, will have its Washington premiere.

The highlight of American Ballet Theatre's engagement will be Natalie Makarova's production of *la Bayadere*, which opened with critical success in New York. ABT will also feature its wide range of repertory favorites, ranging from *Don Quixote* to *Giselle*.

Two young and talented companies will have limited runs in the Opera House this season — The Eliot Feld Ballet and Dance Theatre of Harlem. The Eliot Feld Ballet returns to the Opera House for its second season. Clive Barnes has described Feld as "the most talented choreographer of his

generation." Works planned for this visit include three new Feld pieces — *Circa*, *Meadowlark*, and a work to be announced.

Dance Theatre of Harlem brings a youthful excitement and enthusiasm to the stage. Under the artistic direction of Arthur Mitchell, the Balanchine influence is clearly seen in the training of this company, who are equally at home with both the classics and modern works. An example of their diversity will be seen in four pieces new to Washington, including George Balanchine's *Serenade* and Antony Tudor's *Dark Elegies*.

Returning to the Opera House for its third season will be London's Royal Ballet. Featured will be Sir Frederic Ashton's *A Month in the Country*. The Royal will present three full-length ballets to be selected from its repertory of Kenneth MacMillan masterpieces such as *Manon*, *Romeo and*

Juliet, *Mayerling*, and *Swan Lake*.

The exciting plus of this season is the Martha Graham Dance Company. Produced through the joint efforts of the Kennedy Center and the Washington Performing Arts Society, subscribers will have the option of seeing the best known of all modern companies. Martha Graham is one of the most active forces in the world of dance, and has helped make both modern and classical dance what it is today.



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Maroon To Exhibit Photographs Of Egypt

The National Academy of Sciences will exhibit twenty-nine photographs of Egypt by award-winning Washington photographer, Fred J. Maroon, September 16 through November 7, 1980.

The photographs appear in Maroon's recent book, *The Egypt Story: Its Art, Its People, Its Monuments, Its History*, co-authored by P. H. Newby and published by Abbeville Press. For the book, Maroon spent months traveling in Egypt by plane, helicopter, boat, car, jeep,

donkey and camel to record the places, people, structures, and events which reflect the ancient and modern in Egyptian life.

Trained as an architect, Maroon has been a free-lance photographer, author and lecturer for twenty-five years. His work has taken him to all parts of the world and his photographic features have appeared in leading national and international magazines. Maroon's earlier books include *Washington: Magnificent Capital* with Eric Sevareid and A. Robert Smith,

These United States with Hugh Sidey, and *Courage and Hesitation* with Allen Drury.

Maroon was recently awarded a First Prize in the annual White House News Photographers Association competition, the third time he has been so honored. His prize-winning photograph of Egyptian architect Hassan Fathi is included in the current show. Recipient of Gold Medal awards from the Art Directors' Clubs of Metropolitan Washington and New York, Maroon has exhibited both in this country and abroad.

His works are in the permanent collections of the Museum of Modern Arts and the Metropolitan Museums of Art in New York.

The exhibit, in the Auditorium Gallery of the NAS, 2101 Constitution Avenue NW, is sponsored by the Arts-in-the-Academy program. It is open to the public free of charge 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Special arrangements can be made to view the exhibit on weekends by calling the Academy.



Candidates Night

continued from page 1

Foggy Bottom communications are addressed to him.

John was first appointed to the Council for a two-year term and then elected for a four-year term. He was able to list numerous times he had successfully responded to FBA appeals his most recent achievement on behalf of the Association was to restore service on the No. 81 bus route that had been discontinued in the neighborhood.

John is the Chairman of the Committee on Finance and Revenue of D.C. and serves on the Committee of Housing and Economic Development and the Committee on Human Resources. Wilson discussed the budgetary constraints in the District and the difficulty this causes the Council in trying to carry out the city's programs. John feels there is too much waste and inefficiency in the D.C. government and hopes that he will be able to improve the city's financial position in his next term in office, if elected.

John urged the Foggy Bottom residents to exercise their right to vote. He said that it did not help him to carry out programs expected of him in Ward 2 when the voting record was low. A low-voting district cannot expect to receive the attention that a more politically active area would merit.

John concluded his talk by announcing that he had introduced to the D.C. Council a Resolution honoring Mary Healy. Mary, a long-time member of the community was commended for her outstanding work as a successful community activist in the District of Columbia. The full text of the resolution was carried in the June 1980 issue of the Foggy Bottom News. Other Foggy Bottom residents recognized by John for their service to the community that evening were: Al Cottrell, Bob Charles, and John Landgraf. Each was presented with a memento of appreciation from John.

Member-at-Large John Ray

John Ray serves on the District Council Committee on Human Services, the Judiciary Committee and the Transportation and Environmental Affairs Committee.

John is active in community affairs and has worked in many of the city's problem areas as an officer for the church sponsored by the John F. Kennedy League for Universal Justice and Good Will. He has also worked with the Metro Coalition fighting high utility rates and he is a Boy Scout leader with the Fort Totten district in the city.

John offered his ideas to the Foggy Bottom residents on how to improve community life, to increase housing and jobs. He outlined problems of budgetary restraints and the difficulties within the D.C. school system. He is optimistic about the future of D.C. and has long-range plans for resolving its problems. He joined the other Council candidates in urging everyone to vote.

FBA Elections

Dirk Holscher, Chairman of the Nominating Committee for the FBA 1980/81 elections, reviewed

the voting procedures for the election and asked the nominees to introduce themselves prior to the voting. The names of the candidates were listed in the June 1980 Foggy Bottom News. Julia Bond, not a candidate for office, served as pro tem chairman as President John Landgraf stepped down to participate as a candidate for the new term president.

As the votes were being counted, President Landgraf resumed the chair and announced that Mel Ogden, who had served four years as Advertising Manager for the Foggy Bottom News, was resigning that position. President expressed the views of all of us who read the Foggy Bottom News that it would be a difficult task to meet the standards and profitable returns Mel had achieved as Advertising Manager.

President Landgraf also announced that Kathy Haley, Assistant Editor, would now serve as the Editor of the Foggy Bottom News.

Election Results

The Chairman of the Nominating Committee announced the election results as: President, John Landgraf; Vice President, Maureen Holscher; Treasurer, Mel Ogden; Executive Board Members: Ellie Becker, Bob Charles, Lucille Duprat, Karen Gordon, June Haley, Anne Lomas, Dorothy Ohliger. Jeanne Abel will serve as the FBA Secretary.

Mary Healy announced that she had received a formal report from John Brophy, Public Parking Administrator of the D.C. Department of Transportation, on suggestions she had made on traffic control. The text of the letter is reproduced below:

Dear Mary,

Many of the suggestions you made on our recent tour of Foggy Bottom have been implemented.

- On 24th and G Streets, N.W., we installed an additional stop sign, relocated the Residential Permit Parking sign and painted parking Ls on the street.
- Within two weeks, we will install a "No Right Turn on Red" sign on the corner of Virginia and New Hampshire Avenues and remove the bus stop from the circle.
- No Parking signs have been installed at 27th Street, I Street and the E Street Expressway.
- The street name sign for Queen Anne's Court has been installed.
- Within three weeks we will install a stop sign by the crosswalk on New Hampshire Avenue and H Street and eliminate the one parking sign.
- Both the land in back of the Howard Johnson's on Virginia Avenue and the park on 26th Street between I and K Streets are owned by the D.C. Government. However, due to our extreme financial situation, there is no money available at this time for the type of improvements you suggested.

Finally, we investigated your suggestion of installing a four way stop sign on 24th and H Streets. Upon investigation it was decided that installation of a four way stop sign would not solve the existing problem. What is needed is additional enforcement. We have, therefore, informed the Metropolitan Police Department and asked them to patrol the area. We will then monitor the intersection and conduct a traffic and safety analysis with the additional enforcement. If the situation has not improved, we will then reconsider installing a four way stop sign.

Sincerely,

John M. Brophy,
Public Parking Administrator

Perry Fisher

(Continued from page 1)

We aren't the only ones who have testified before the Board of Zoning of the District of Columbia. Mr. Fisher has testified there and also before the Joint Committee on Landmarks of the National Capital. He has founded and is presently co-chair for the Annual Conference on Washington, D.C. Historical Studies.

I hope you all remember the monograph on Foggy Bottom published by George Washington University. We can thank Mr. Fisher that the monograph series is being published. He was instrumental in helping to establish the monographs and authored the first one, *Materials for the Study of Washington*. If any of you have taken any courses dealing with historical preservation, American cultural history, or Washington, D.C. development and history at George Washington University or the Smithsonian Institution, you may have been a student in one of Mr. Fisher's classes. Since he is so knowledgeable in the field, Mr. Fisher has also served as a consultant to National Geographic

ANC Meeting

Tuesday, October 7

8:00 p.m.

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For any of you who have an interest in the history of our city, stop by the Society. It is just a short walk from Foggy Bottom. It's located at 1307 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W., just a block off of Dupont Circle. The building is the Christian Heurich Memorial Mansion, completed in

1894. It was the first fireproof residence ever built in Washington. The mansion is a four-story, Romanesque Revival style, with a rusticated brown sandstone front and imposing corner tower. The building occupies just part of the grounds, so try to visit the Society in warm weather to enjoy the beautiful gardens as well.

Let's see a big turnout for the September meeting. With such an interesting speaker and topic, how could you miss it!

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